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& SHIPPER OF
ALFALFA SEED, COTTON
GRAIN & HAY, CATTLE
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AND
OTHER
FARM
PRODUCTS
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ENERGY
& ICE

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DRY GOODS, HARDWARE
SHOES
FURNITURE & IMPLEMENTS
GENTS FURNISHINGS
DRUGS & NOTIONS
BAKERY, CREAMERY
TRUCKING
CONTRACTORS & MINING
SUPPLIES
TRUCKS
AUTOMOBILES

E. J. Sanguinetti

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN
GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Yuma, Arizona

January 24th, 1926.

General P. Elias Calles,
President of the United States of Mexico,
National Palace,
MEXICO, D. F.

My dear President:

I am taking the liberty of addressing you in behalf of Vicenta Pacheco Viuda de Martinez referring to her homestead entry comprising about 5000 hectares of land (which I understand was the amount of land allowed as homestead entry at the time that the Martinez family located on this tract) known as the Algodones Ranch.

It is not my desire to go into the legality of her entry, as this has already been thoroughly gone over, and from what I understand, you are well informed as to all her rights. I was simply drawn into the matter by having extended accommodation to Mr. A. L. Verdugo, who has been associated with me for the last twenty years, feeling that Mrs. Martinez was deserving of any help that Mr. Verdugo and his associates could give her, and that it was only the matter of a short time

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General P. Elias Calles, --2-- January 24th, 1926.

when justice would put her in absolute possession of her lands.

I came to Yuma in 1883; at that time the Martinez family were living on these lands, and they did considerable business with me, and I always found them good honest law abiding citizens. I used to extend them credits in considerable amounts and they took proper care of their obligations. The family was always looked upon as deserving of the respect of our community.

Mr. F. B. Maldonado, who was associated with Mr. Verdugo and furnished him most of his financial help suffered very severe reverses in 1920, at which time Mr. Verdugo appealed to me for assistance, and knowing that the Martinez family had continually resided on these lands for many years prior to my coming here, I did not hesitate to aid him and I felt justified in extending him such relief as I could conveniently. I was greatly gratified later on to learn that Mrs. Martinez had obtained a patent from the Mexican Government covering her lands in question; that her lands had been properly surveyed by the Government Engineers, locating her boundary lines, and furthermore that her title to said lands had been declared absolute

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by decision handed down on the 13th day of May 1924 by the Supreme Court of Justice of the United States of Mexico.

I felt, after these proceedings, that her title was unimpeachable and that there could be no doubt whatsoever in anyone's mind but what her title was perfect, without any chance of controversy. Under these conditions, I felt justified in buying a small acreage of these lands and making further advances to the Cia. Agricola de los Algodones, a corporation which had been formed by Mr. Verdugo and his associates who had purchased from Mrs. Martinez a portion of her lands.

I was very pleased indeed that Mrs. Martinez had won in her legal entanglements and had been placed in possession of her legal rights, would be able to farm her lands and thus take good care of her large and very numerous family that had been born and raised on these very lands whereon she resided, I understand, since 1875.

Myself and associates of the Cia. Agricola de los Algodones immediately started to, and did, put into cultivation additional lands and continued to improve them and really intended to make them a show place of this community. I had a few hundred head of the very best dairy stock available in this country which I intended

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to move on a portion of these lands. I had full confidence that there was no possibility whatsoever of any trouble coming up that would in any way jeopardize the title to these lands after Mrs. Martinez had obtained her patent and this had been supported by the Supreme Court's decision as herein stated.

Later on, as no doubt you know from other sources, that has been or will be thoroughly explained to you, we were dispossessed of these lands; other parties put in charge of them without, what I consider, a proper justified course of action. I feel that the procedure in dispossessing the Cia. Agricola de los Algodones from these lands was not the proper one to pursue, and that after you have had this matter thoroughly investigated, you will immediately see that proper restitution of these lands be made, and that justice be done to Mrs. Martinez and to parties who have purchased lands from her and have assisted her in placing her in possession of her legal rights.

My dear Mr. President, I say without hesitation and aside from the interest that I have acquired in these lands after thoroughly investigating title and decisions, that Mrs. Martinez and her family should be permitted to enjoy the fruits of their labor and hardships that they went through. She surely has complied

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with the most rigid requirements that any homesteader could have to obtain patents to her lands. I know positively that she has lived on these lands, raised a large family, and felt at all times that her country would protect her rights.

I could write much more and would be willing to do so if I did not feel that I was intruding on your valuable time, and must say that this letter from me to you is written for the sole purpose of protecting this poor woman and her family, and also the parties who have contributed so nobly to help her in her rights, and feeling that your Courts would not permit any injustice done her.

I also desire to add that Mr. Verdugo has been living in Yuma during the last twenty years, during which time he has occupied many public positions of trust, has had charge of my Gent's Furnishing and Shoe Departments, has lived a good moral life and is very highly regarded in our community. Mrs. Martinez has been very fortunate in having him and his associates aid her, as otherwise she might have lost her home, which is sacred and her only means of support.

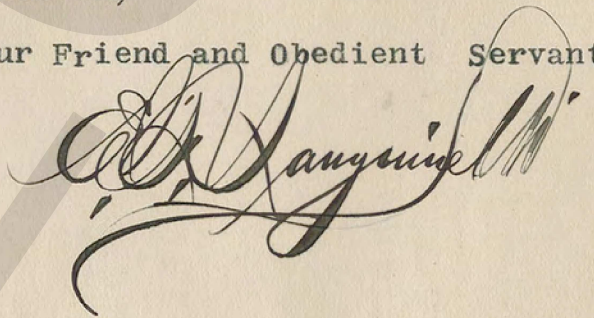
When she located on these lands, they were not worth much; no one bothered her then, but since they have

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become valuable, very productive and among the best lands in Lower California, these troubles have arisen through parties desiring to acquire them, and I sincerely hope that you will use your best offices in her behalf, as I know that if any person on earth is entitled to them, she surely is.

Trusting that you will pardon me for addressing you, I am, with the highest esteem,

Your Friend and Obedient Servant,



S/ow



SECRETARIA AGRICULTURA

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Palacio Nacional,
Febrero 10 de 1926.

Señor E. F. Sanguinetti.
Yuma, Arizona.
U. S. A.

Muy señor mío:

Por el estimable conducto del señor Coronel José M. Tapia, recibí la muy atenta carta de usted fecha 24 de enero anterior, quedando debidamente impuesto, por su contenido, de los informes que se sirve proporcionar con respecto a la propiedad -- del Rancho de "Los Algodones".

Quedo de usted afmo. s. s.

PEC/SG/jna.

ORIGINAL

FAPPELLETTI

SANGUINETTI E. F.

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